

**THE LISLE PARK DISTRICT
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL: President Cook called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Lisle Park District Recreation Multipurpose Room, 1925 Ohio Street, Lisle, IL 60532.

Director Garvy Called Roll:	Commissioners Present:	Altpeter* Buchelt Cook Hough Richter- 7:07pm
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Also Present:	
Director	Garvy
Superintendent of Recreation	Toohy
Superintendent of Operations	Leone
Superintendent of Parks	Cerutti
Superintendent of Finance	Silver
General Manager	Shamberg
Golf Operations Manager	Culbertson

*Absent 8:23 to 8:46 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Cook led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS:

A. National Wireless Ventures & AT&T –Wireless Transmission Tower Proposal
Director Garvy introduced Mr. Pete Aimaro & Mr. Robert Stapleton from National Wireless Ventures and asked that they provide an overview of their proposal for a wireless communications transmission tower at Valley Forge Park. Mr. Stapleton stated that there is a three year nationwide development for AT & T to expand its network. He estimated that there will be about 300 structures going up in a 6 county area and that these towers increase the value of the AT & T network. He said the benefits of a wireless system are better medical response time such as 911 location services; better productivity for business or those working from home; fewer dropped calls; an increase in available bandwidth and an increase in connectivity. Mr. Stapleton stated having a tower in the area is better for the community as a whole. He said they believe in giving back to the communities in which the towers are located through rent payments to the Park District and that money in turn would go back to the community through increased programs and services. He said his wireless service is safe as it operates at fewer than 10 watts. He stated there are no official studies on how it will or will not affect property values however their intent is to make it blend into its surroundings as much as possible, stating it is designed to look like a flag pole or a clock tower. He stated all the antennas are inside the structure so they're not visible and there are no flashing lights and no noise. The tower is compliant well beyond the safety threshold set by the FCC and other governing authorities.

Director Garvy stated that he has questions & concerns from some residents who were unable to attend the meeting. He asked where they would put the tower if not in the park. Mr. Stapleton answered National Wireless and AT & T has a radius of an area they

need to be in to provide the best coverage area. He then passed around a map of the coverage area and said if the Park District turns them down they will look to other property owners. He said because this radius is predominantly residential their options are quite limited.

Director Garvy said there have been concerns about lightening and that even though the tower would be grounded there are concerns with ground surges that could affect adjacent properties. Mr. Stapleton responded that the tower is grounded and is designed with a lightening arrester which will contain 99% of a strike inside. He said in power outages, the tower has a back-up battery and a natural gas generator that are tested once a month. He said there are flooding precautions in place and that the tower is designed to stay dry inside. He said it runs on electric power similar to the residential service of adjacent homeowners. The design will be such that the tower will not change the make-up of the park grounds. He said tower would be designed so significant amounts of ice wouldn't form on it, and if it did the closest anyone can ever be to the tower is 12 feet so he didn't think it should be a big concern.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Cook read public comment statement. "Visitors are welcome to address the Board of Park Commissioners. You are asked to raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Board President. When recognized, please state your name, address and the item you wish to discuss. It is requested that one spokesperson for a group be appointed to present the views of the entire group, rather than have multiple individual's repeat similar opinions. There will be a 5 minute time limit per speaker."

Mr. Jian Zhang of 6598 Tealwood Drive, Lisle expressed concerns about the watts transmitted from the tower and about the tower being so close to a school.

Mr. Stapleton stated the power of transmission is under 10 watts. The FCC and government monitors the transmission power and the AT & T tower is 1000 times less than what they look at. He also stated that they have never been cited for going over power limits and OSHA also looks at the radiation power. As far as health concerns, he said National Wireless has built towers and antennae on top of hospitals and schools throughout the Chicago area and said he doesn't feel hospitals would condone these devices if there were any legitimate health concerns.

Mr. Rodd Elges of 6192 Hickory Drive, Lisle emphasized he would like his cell phone number, 630-650-3498, reflected in the minutes because he is opposed to this project. He commended the Park Board & staff for having done a great job managing the park district over the last few years. He stated that while an informational letter was delivered to the residents who backed up to Valley Forge Park, it should have been delivered to everyone. He said the park district should have made sure the excerpt that appeared in the Green Trails Pathfinder appeared on the front page. Commissioner Hough stated the park district has no control over the publication or placement of articles and referenced there surely are space constraints. Mr. Elges stated that it is the Park Board's responsibility to maintain and preserve green space and that building a cell tower in a park is not within the mission of the Board, and that a 9 story structure will stick out in that area.

Mr. Ken Banas of 6482 Cape Cod Court, Lisle stated that the Commissioners need to look at the pros and cons of building this tower. He said he appreciates the park board's challenges but hopes they take into consideration what the neighbors feel. He said the negatives are that there is no data to show the effects on property value, the money that the Park District will make on this deal is not all that much for the hassle it has already

created. He pointed out that homes have a hard wire land line that provides the internet to the modem which provides the Wi-Fi within your home and that this tower isn't needed for wireless, stating he has AT & T and experiences no issues. He stated that while there is little data on the health concerns, why the park district would risk it with what amounts to be such a small financial benefit when compared to the park district's overall operating budget. He said there are concerns about the flood design & integrity of the park and asked about the possibility of flood waters becoming electrified. Mr. Banas asked the commissioners what their goal is for this meeting. Mr. Stapleton stated that the electric and gas lines are already there and they just tap into those; they don't add more so there is no increased risk with electrified water because it is all underground. President Cook stated that the Board of Park Commissioners is strictly on a fact finding mission right now and hearing feedback from the residents. He said it is on the agenda under unfinished business and at that point the Board will decide to proceed with it or not.

Ms. Sudha Srinivas of 2949 Valley Forge Road, Lisle stated she agrees with the other points summarized by others but would like to add that there is little data on FCC guidelines and a 30 year contract is too long. She stated that the fall zone for ice and debris falling from the structure needs to be 2 times the height of the object which will take up too much space in the park. She also stated that this is such a small amount of revenue compared to our overall budget that it is not a good alternative revenue. Mrs. Srinivas also stated that the radiant power is strongest in the park and next to the school if we place a tower there. Without knowing the health risks we shouldn't put this tower so close to the school. Mr. Stapleton stated that there are a lot of hospitals and colleges that have towers on them and there is even a school in District 203 with one. He doesn't believe there are risks if hospitals are placing towers on their buildings.

Ms. Julie Dudas of 2929 Valley Forge Road, Lisle stated that she does not see a demand for the service. They do not have problems in the area and stated the Board needs to consider the walking trail and how close this structure is to it.

Mr. Mark D'Souza of 2949 Valley Forge Road, Lisle stated there are no problems with AT&T as he himself has AT&T. He said feels this structure will stick out like a sore thumb and feels the area is peaceful and quiet. He asked the park board to not put this structure in the park.

President Cook thanks everyone for their comments and concerns.

APPROVE MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Buchelt moved to approve the meeting agenda for the regular meeting for Thursday, November 14, 2013. Commissioner Hough seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION: Commissioner Hough moved to approve consent agenda items:

- A. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 17, 2013
- B. Approve Minutes of Special Meeting of October 29, 2013
- C. Approve Minutes of Special Meeting of November 9, 2013
- D. Approve November 14, 2013 Voucher List in the amount of \$261,325.57
- E. Award 2014 Routine Turf Maintenance Services Contract to Beary Landscaping in the amount of \$2,940 per mow cycle.

- F. Approve the reservation of October 11, 2014 for the 2014 Benet Academy Cross Country Invitational to be held in Community Park.

Commissioner Richter seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hough, Richter, Buchelt, Cook

Absent: Altpeter

Nays: None

Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

In addition to the thank you letter from the principal of Tate Woods School and the copy of the letter from the Park District to Valley Forge Park neighbors, President Cook referenced a thank you from the Lisle Woman's Club regarding the sock donations the park district collected for the troops.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. 2014 budget: Resolution 111413, A Resolution Determining Funds Estimated to be Raised by Taxation for the year 2013.

MOTION: Commissioner Hough moved to approve Resolution 111413, A Resolution Determining Funds Estimated to be raised by Taxation for the Year 2013. Commissioner Richter seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hough, Richter, Buchelt, Cook

Absent: Altpeter

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- B. Wireless Communications Transmission Tower

Commissioner Buchelt stated that the tower will be going somewhere in the radius that AT & T has provided whether the park district puts it in or someone else does. He added that there will likely be other providers and other sites identified within the community. He also stated the importance of the community coming out to speak and said he appreciated everyone's comments. Commissioner Richter stated that while by nature he is anti-tax, the park district shouldn't sacrifice aesthetics of the park. He said the park district isn't here to help AT&T, it's here to serve the people and he does not think this is something the park district should authorize. Commissioner Altpeter agreed that the Board is here to watch green space and a tower doesn't necessarily belong in a park. She also said she doesn't like the thought of giving up a revenue source but said it is indeed a rather small percent of the budget. President Cook stated that while it is a small amount of revenue, it would still fund park improvements. He said he would like to move forward with the recommendation to work with legal counsel to negotiate lease terms and work with the Village of Lisle in preparing a variance request for the Plan Commission. He asked if any member of the Board wanted to make a motion to proceed with the wireless communication tower. No motion was made.

President Cook stated that with no motion made, the Board and staff will no longer pursue the tower plans and thanked National Wireless and AT & T for their presentation and time.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent Cerutti stated they will be installing locks on the preschool bathrooms to lock in children and staff in case of an intruder.

Director Garvy stated that we are working closely with the police and fire on an emergency evacuation plan.

Commissioner Altpeter commended the Recreation Staff on a great job with Trail of Terror. She explained how impressed she was that so many teenagers want to be at this event on a Saturday night and that Erica, Mike and Jenny know them all by name. Commissioner Buchelt also stated that Monster Madness was a great experience for his family. Commissioner Buchelt stated that the Recreation Revenue was up \$49,000 and asked how the district was able to cut expenses by \$32,000. Superintendent Toohey explained that staff tried a few new things this year, one of which was asking parents to provide preschoolers with supplies and their own snacks, which previously had been provided for by the park district.

PARTNERS FOR PARKS REPORT

Superintendent Leone stated that Partners for Parks has applied for a recycling grant. She reported they have also pledged \$10,000 to the Sensory Garden Playground that is being constructed in the far north-west corner of Lisle but within Wheaton Park District. She explained the project is being coordinated by the Wheaton Park District, Western DuPage Special Recreation Association, Wheaton Kiwanis and other groups. She asked the Board to keep a look out for an invite to a night with Chef Dave Miller, which is a fundraiser for Partners for Parks.

SEASPAR REPORT

Director Garvy stated that the Renovation Project is out to bid for the SEASPAR space. He reported the bid opening will be December 4th and staff will have a recommendation to award the work before the Board at the December meeting. He said he expects construction should start in January. He reported the November SEASPAR Board meeting will be held at the Recreation Center in room 2 at 3:30 p.m. so he can give a tour of the space at 3:00 p.m. He reported he will have a revised lease agreement before the park board in December that will reflect an increase of the 15-year term. He reported that since SEASPAR will reimburse the park district up to \$200,000 for the construction of the space, the SEASPAR board feels a longer lease is warranted. He said he will recommend a 30-year term and asked that if anyone on the park board had any concerns that they let him know right away. President Cook asked that the park district do a photo documentation of the SEASPAR space being developed to which Director Garvy replied staff will do so.

OFFICER REPORTS

A. President

President Cook said he too attended Monster Madness and thought it was a great event with a great turnout.

B. Treasurer Financial Reports ending October 31, 2013

Superintendent Silver stated that the park district received the \$74,000 for the golf course flood damage from PDRM A, however the district is still waiting on FEM A money.

C. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Richter stated that he also went to Trail of Terror and he thought it was a great event, too.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Buildings and Grounds

None.

B. Recreation and Golf

None.

C. Personnel/Technology

None.

D. Policies and Procedures

None.

E. Intergovernmental

None.

F. Finance

None.

President Cook recognized Mr. Ken Banas from the audience. Mr. Banas thanked the board for their decision on the cell tower. He said he knew it was a difficult decision, acknowledged the challenges the board faces and said he appreciates the board's consideration of the residents' feedback.

ADJOURN OPEN MEETING

MOTION: Commissioner Altpeter moved to adjourn the open meeting at 9:24 p.m. Commissioner Buchelt seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed by voice vote.